Attorney Docket No. 04222/LH

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): T. YOKOYAMA et al

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## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Asst. Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents. P.O. Box 1450. Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

13. ∕Barbara Villani

In the event that this Paper is late filed, and the necessary petition for extension of time is not filed concurrently herewith, please consider this as a Petition for the requisite extension of time, and to the extent not tendered by check attached hereto, authorization to charge the extension fee, or any other fee required in connection with this Paper, to Account No. 06-1378.

## SIR:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper. Claims 1, 2 and 5 are maintained; claims 3, 4, 6 and 7 are amended; and claims 8-20 are added.

Remarks begin on page 8 of this paper.